

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

SHULMAN et al.

Application No.: Unassigned

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: October 3, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

For: COMPUTER PROGRAMMING
LANGUAGE STATEMENT
BUILDING AND INFORMATION
TOOL

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT and all accompanying documents are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: 10/3/01 *Be D. Sand*

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R § 1.115, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks, prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application. Appendix A includes a clean copy of the entire set of pending claims.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, line 5, please add a new paragraph as the following:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application is a continuation of United States Patent Application Number 09/391,057, filed September 7, 1999, which in turn is a continuation of United States Patent Application No. 08/863,822, filed on May 27, 1997, which issued as United States Patent Number 6,026,233 on February 15, 2000.

09/391,057

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel, without prejudice, claims 1 through 20.

Please add new claims 21 through 24 as follows:

21. (New) A computer-readable medium containing computer-executable instructions to perform a method for assisting a computer programmer in real-time to modify a present programming language statement of a computer program, the method comprising:

enabling a programming language editor having a character position cursor and a randomly positionable pointer;

partially compiling available ones of a plurality of programming language statements in said computer program;

defining a finite set of programming language statement information that is relevant to at least one segment of the present programming language statement from among said plurality of programming language statements that is proximate to said character position which allows modification of the programming language statement; and

automatically generating a passive assist window that contains said finite set of programming language statement information in a location proximate to said character position cursor that does not obstruct the current view of said programming language statement.

22. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 21, having further computer-executable instructions for performing:

modifying the present programming language statement based at least in part on the selected programming language statement information; and

automatically removing the passive assist window when the programming language statement has been amended.

23. (New) A computer-readable medium whose contents cause a computer system to supplement a computer programming statement by performing the steps of:

automatically displaying the computer programming statement; and

proximate to the display of an incomplete computer programming statement, automatically displaying a dynamic list of one or more textual programmatic entities.

24. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, having further computer-executable instructions for performing:
- receiving a user input selection of one of the displayed textual programmatic entities;
 - and
 - adding the selected textual programmatic entity to the displayed statement.

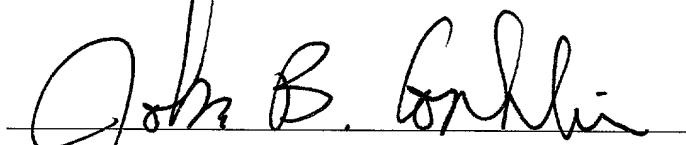
REMARKS

This application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. patent application No. 09/391,057. Original claims 1-20 in this application have been canceled herein in favor of new claims 21-24. No new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



John B. Conklin, Reg. No. 30,369
One of the Attorneys for Applicants
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.
Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 4900
180 North Stetson
Chicago, Illinois 60601-6780
(312) 616-5600 (telephone)
(312) 616-5700 (facsimile)

Date: October 3, 2001

APPENDIX A

Clean Copy of the Entire Set of Pending Claims

21. (New) A computer-readable medium containing computer-executable instructions to perform a method for assisting a computer programmer in real-time to modify a present programming language statement of a computer program, the method comprising:

enabling a programming language editor having a character position cursor and a randomly positionable pointer;

partially compiling available ones of a plurality of programming language statements in said computer program;

defining a finite set of programming language statement information that is relevant to at least one segment of the present programming language statement from among said plurality of programming language statements that is proximate to said character position which allows modification of the programming language statement; and

automatically generating a passive assist window that contains said finite set of programming language statement information in a location proximate to said character position cursor that does not obstruct the current view of said programming language statement.

22. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 21, having further computer-executable instructions for performing:

modifying the present programming language statement based at least in part on the selected programming language statement information; and

automatically removing the passive assist window when the programming language statement has been amended.

23. (New) A computer-readable medium whose contents cause a computer system to supplement a computer programming statement by performing the steps of:

automatically displaying the computer programming statement; and

proximate to the display of an incomplete computer programming statement, automatically displaying a dynamic list of one or more textual programmatic entities.

24. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, having further computer-executable instructions for performing:
- receiving a user input selection of one of the displayed textual programmatic entities;
 - and
 - adding the selected textual programmatic entity to the displayed statement.